

[illegible]

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- [Continued on next page]*

(57) Abstract: A tubular apparatus (20) and method, according to which a first tubular member (34) is adapted to be lowered into a well bore and a second tubular member (120) is connected to the first tubular member (34). A third tubular member (102, 112) is normally connected to the first tubular member (34) and disconnected from the second tubular member (102, 112), and is adapted for movement relative to the first (34) and second tubular (120, 112) members to disconnect from the first tubular member (34) and connect to the second tubular member (102, 112).



GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

#### Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW. ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW). Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM). European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LI, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR). OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ,

EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW. ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW). Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM). European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LI, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR). OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/08073

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC (7) E21B 17/00, 19/16  
 US CL 166/242.7, 380,208

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 166/242.7, 380,277,377,378,381,382,77.51,301,206,242.1,242.6,207,208

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

Please See Continuation Sheet

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X, P, L	US 2003/0075337 A1 (Maguire) 24 April 2003 (24.04.2003), see Figures.	21-26, 28-34
Y, P, L		27
Y	US 2002/0139540 A1 (Lauritzen) 03 October 2002 (03.10.2002), see paragraph 0038.	27
A	US 4,915,177 A (Claycomb) 10 April 1990 (10.04.1990), see Figures.	1-20
A	US 4,995,464 A (Watkins et al.) 26 February 1991 (26.02.1991), see Figures.	1-20
A	US 3,667,547 A (Ahlsom) 06 June 1972 (06.06.1972), see Figures.	1-20
A	US 5,566,772 A (Conne et al.) 22 October 1993 (22.10.1996), see Figures.	1-20
A	US 4,778,088 A (Gonzalez et al.) 18 October 1988 (18.10.1988), see Figures.	1-20
A, T	US 6,516,887 B2 (Nguyen et al.) 11 February 2003 (11.02.2003), see Figures.	1-20

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

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\* documents of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combinations being obvious to a person skilled in the art

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

04 August 2004 (04.08.2004)

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

David Bagnell

Telephone No. (703) 308-1113

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PCT/US04/08073

## C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A, E	US 6,732,806 B2 (Mauldin et al.) 11 May 2004 (11.05.2004), see Figures.	21-34
A, E	US 6,695,065 B2 (Simpson et al.) 24 February 2004 (24.02.2004), see Figures.	21-34
A, P, L	US 6,543,552 B1 (Metcalfe et al.) 08 April 2003 (08.04.2003), see Figures.	21-34
A, P, L	US 6,543,545 B1 (Chatterji et al.) 08 April 2003 (08.04.2003), see Figures.	21-34
A	US 6,325,148 B1 (Trahan et al.) 04 December 2001 (04.12.2001), see Figures.	21-34
A	US 5,785,120 A (Smalley et al.) 28 July 1998 (28.07.1998), see Figures.	21-34

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US04/08993

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

EAST

search terms: expandable casing, expandable tubing, expandable liner, connection, thread, torque, cement, resistance, restriction, obstruction, expander, expansion cone, expansion mandrel, rotation, tension, liner hanger